

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

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R 291150Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3372

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR PO GH

SUB: GOG URGES SPINOLA GOVERNMENT GRANT INDEPENDENCE TO
AFRICAN TERRITORIES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. GHANA'S RULING NATIONAL REDEMPTION COUNCIL (NRC) ISSUED
STATEMENT THROUGH MFFA CALLING ON THE SPINOLA GOVERNMENT TO GRANT
INDEPENDENCE TO PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN TERRITORIES.

2. STATEMENT SAID QTE THE GOVERNMENT OF GHANA HAS LEARNT WITH
PROFOUND INTEREST THE NEWS OF THE MILITARY COUP D' ETAT IN PORTUGAL.
IN THE LIGHT OF THE ANACHRONISTIC POLICIES, PURSUED BY THE SALAZAR
AND CAETANO REGIMES AND, PARTICULARLY, THE UTTER SENSELESSNESS OF
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THE COLONIAL WARS SO LONG WAGED AGAINST THE PEOPLES OF GUINEA-BISSAU,
ANGOLA, SAO TOME AND MOZAMBIQUE, THE MILITARY ACTION JUST TAKEN

CAN ONLY BE REGARDED AS INEVITABLE AND NATURAL. WE CHERISH THE HOPE THAT, BY THIS ACT, A SORDID CHAPTER OF BARBARISM AND MORAL DECADENCE IN PORTUGUESE HISTORY HAS COME TO AN END AND THAT WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A NEW ERA OF REALISM ON THE PART OF THE NEW REGIME THAT A PEOPLE'S WILL FOR FREEDOM AND JUSTICE CANNOT FOREVER BE SUPPRESSED. THE REGIME WILL IGNORE THIS TO ITS OWN PERIL. UNQTE.

3. NEWS OF COUP BEING GIVEN PROMINENT PRESS, RADIO AND TV COVERAGE.

GOVERNMENT-OWNED "GRAPHIC" EDITORIALIZED THAT SPINOLA'S PROPOSAL FOR POLITICAL FEDERATION OF COLONIES WITH PORTUGAL WOULD ONLY LEAD TO MORE SETTLER REGIMES IN AFRICA AND CALLED ON AFRICANS TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE FOR COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. COMMENT: MFA OFFICIALS ARE GUARDEDLY OPTIMISTIC SOME MOVEMENT TOWARD INDEPENDENCE FOR PORTUGAL'S AFRICAN COLONIES WILL RESULT FROM SPINOLA TAKEOVER. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, AWAITING POLICY STATEMENT FROM LISBON BEFORE ALLOWING THEMSELVES BELIEVE THERE HAS BEEN A REAL CHANGE IN PORTUGUESE AFRICAN POLICY. THEY HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT NEW UDI'S MAY BE IN OFFING IN ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

HADSEL

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